

Washington, D.C. Congressman Sanford D. Bishop Jr., Representative of Georgia's Second Congressional District, announced today that the full House of Representatives has approved the fiscal year (FY) 2008 Interior and Environment Appropriations bill. While the overall objective of the bill is to ensure a higher quality for America's water, air and natural resources, a specific provision of the bill will provide \$500,000 to the city of Vienna to assist in improving its wastewater system.

"The city of Vienna, through this funding, will be able to create a healthier environment for its citizens, provide a higher quality of life, and plan for future growth," said Congressman Bishop. "Furthermore, I am pleased this bill will help protect America's natural beauty, our drinking water, and make certain that disasters such as wildfires, which have been so devastating to many parts of Georgia, will be appropriately managed in the future."

The bill, which passed last night, provides a total of \$27.6 billion for the Department of the Interior, the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), the U.S. Forestry Service and related agencies. This amount is \$1.1 billion above the FY 2007 funding level and \$1.9 billion above the amount requested by President Bush. The Senate must now complete action on their version of the bill.